

ASSAYS OF GOLD AND SILVER COINS, &c.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A report of the fineness and value, by weight, of certain gold and silver coins specified in the acts of Congress of April 10, 1806, and June 28, 1834.

MARCH 3, 1841.

Read, and laid upon the table.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, February 12, 1841.

SIR: In compliance with the provisions of the 2d section of the act of Congress of June 25, 1834, entitled "An act regulating the value of certain foreign silver coins within the United States," and the 2d section of the act of June 28, 1834, entitled "An act regulating the value of certain foreign gold coins within the United States," I have the honor to enclose a copy of a statement from the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, showing the result of the assays.

I take occasion to invite the attention of Congress to the over-valuation of foreign gold coins current in the United States, as noticed in my communication of April 6, 1840, and in the President's message of the 22d ultimo.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. the SPEAKER

of the House of Representatives.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, *February 10, 1841.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the fineness and value, by weight, of certain gold and silver coins specified in the acts of Congress of April 10, 1806, and June 28, 1834:

Gold coins.	Fineness in thousandths.	Value per dwt.
		<i>Cents.</i>
Great Britain, sovereign - - -	915.5	94.62
France, pieces of 40 and 20 francs - -	899	92.92
Spain, doubloon and parts - - -	866	89.51
Mexico, do - - -	866	89.51
Peru, do - - -	868	89.71
Chili, do - - -	868	89.71
Colombia, doubloons of Bogota - - -	870	89.92
Do do of Popoyan - - -	858	88.68
New Grenada, doubloons, 1837-'38 - -	871	90.02
Bolivia, do - - -	870	89.92
Central America, do - - -	830	85.79
La Plata, do - - -	815	84.24
Portugal, johannes and half - - -	914	94.46
Do crown (of 5,000 reis) and half since 1838 - -	914	94.46
Brazil, piece of 6,400 reis of 1838 - - -	914	94.46
Silver coins.	Fineness in thousandths.	Value per oz.
		<i>Cents.</i>
Spain, dollar of the peninsula - - -	900	116.36
Do pillar-dollar of Spanish America - - -	898	116.10
France, crown, (ceased to be coined in 1793) - -	909	117.55
Do five-franc piece - - -	900	116.36
Mexico, average of various mints, and in the proportion usually presented here - - -	897	115.97
Peru and North and South Peru, dollar - - -	901	116.49
Chili, dollar - - -	906	117.13
Central America, dollar - - -	896	115.84
Brazil, restamped dollar of 960 reis - - -	898	116.10

The above report corresponds with my last, presented April 2, 1840; no change having since occurred.

Very respectfully, your faithful servant,
R. M. PATTERSON, *Director.*

Hon. LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

0, 1841.

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117.13

115.84

116 10

1840; no

Director.